



COUNSELING MANUAL

JOHN DE LA HOWE – SCHOOL FOR AGRICULTURE
ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-2021

COLLEGE AND CAREER COUNSELING SERVICES

Counseling services are available for all students through individual and group counseling. Counseling staff members assist students in making decisions about course selection, career planning, college and postsecondary choices, and personal/social adjustment. This Counseling Manual should help you to:

1. Understand admission to colleges, agriculture schools, and professional companies;
2. Inform you of state graduation requirements and basic admissions requirements;
3. Assist you in the selection of appropriate courses;
4. Make you aware of your responsibilities, your parents' responsibilities, and the school's responsibilities in the admissions process; and
5. Outline the admissions procedures as established at John de la Howe School for Agriculture.

TO THE STUDENT

The responsibility in the post-high school admission process lies with the student. If you are ready to pursue a particular option, then you should be able to assume the expectations of making appointments, completing applications, and meeting deadlines. The school will do all that we can to provide information, counseling, and support, but the process must be carried through by you. It is important that there be good communication between the following: you, your parents, your department chair, and the guidance staff.

Listed below are the actions that represent your responsibilities:

1. Investigate options through all available sources, as well as plan visits to all selected schools.
2. Write a resume, enlisting the help of your English instructor in editing the final draft. Upon completion of the process, make additional copies to distribute to all persons who will be writing on your behalf, including the School Counselor.
3. Register for the **SAT or ACT** testing on time and as needed. It is your responsibility to be aware of all testing requirements and to see that all necessary scores are sent through the testing agency to the appropriate places.
4. Throughout the first semester there will be numerous admissions counselors visiting the campus. It is your responsibility to check the counseling office on a daily basis regarding their visits, financial assistance information, etc.; it is your responsibility to arrange with your teachers a time for meaningful conversation with these counselors.
5. Acquire and complete all applications by their deadlines. There are a limited number of applications in the Counselor's Office. Should you choose to apply online, be certain to print the counselor's section and bring it to the Counseling Office.
6. Each completed application must be submitted at least two weeks before the stated deadline. **(This earlier deadline ensures that proper time and attention can be given to each student's application.)**
7. Notify your counselor of any communication regarding admissions status, financial assistance, status, etc. Copies of all correspondence should be in your file.
8. Provide teachers who are writing recommendations with the proper forms at least five (5) days ahead of the date needed.
9. Notify your counselor, in writing, of the post-high school option you will pursue. This information will designate where we will send your final transcript (if it is required).
10. As a courtesy, notify all agencies or institutions to which you have applied and which you will not be attending, that **you are declining acceptance.**

TO THE PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S)

1. Parents, you have a major responsibility in the process of college admission. Students anguish, along with you, in making the correct choices and waiting notification of acceptances. You have an important role in providing your child with encouragement and support throughout the entire process, as well as serving as a sounding board.
2. Parents, it is advisable for you to be interested in and take part in a pre-arranged visitation, to the extent that you are gathering information and assessing options.
3. Parents, try not to dominate the visit and do not sit in on the personal interview with your child.
4. Parents, remember that your child should take the lead in acquiring and completing an application.
5. Parents, remember that your advice and interest are very important as you and your child make a collaborative decision.
6. Parents, financial assistance is a personal matter specific to each family. The school is not involved in financial concerns.
7. Please make certain that fee(s) to cover college applications, tests, and other related fees are provided for in a timely manner.
8. **Please, No cash!** Checks or money orders should be made out to the college/university.

SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Provide counseling services to you and your parents. Faculty members will make suggestions and will help locate colleges that meet your needs and abilities.
2. Provide testing registration forms, information, and transportation to sites available.
 - Help direct you as to where and how to locate necessary information.
 - Provide notification of financial assistance including scholarship, grants, and work study opportunities.
3. Write recommendations, complete secondary report, and mail completed applications.

SPECIAL NEEDS

The John de la Howe - School for Agriculture complies with all the state and federal guidelines in regards to meeting the special needs of students, including, but not limited to PL 94-142, PL 93-112, Section 504, Title VII, Title IX, and all amendments and updates (available on various websites).

Please make the school aware of any special accommodations, IEPs, psychological evaluation, etc., in a timely fashion.

The school makes every effort to provide ESL services as well as tutoring as needed.

The John de la Howe School for Agriculture is committed to equality of education opportunity. The school does not discriminate against applicants, students, or employees on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or handicap.

GENERAL INFORMATION

COLLEGE PREP (CP) Courses taken to meet graduation credit are offered at the college prep (CP) level as indicated by the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale. Courses with added GPA value are also offered at the Honors, AP, or Dual Enrollment level.

CREDIT RECOVERY Students who have been unsuccessful in mastering content or skills required to receive course credit may be offered the opportunity to participate in the school's credit recovery programs.

The school's credit recovery program consists of a course-specific, skill-based learning opportunity for students who have previously failed to master content or skills required to receive credit in a given course. The program is designed for students who are no longer enrolled in a course but who have achieved sufficient mastery to benefit from a block of instruction, less than the entirety of the course, which targets specific components or a subset of standards to address the student's deficiencies. Students earning a grade of 50-59 in a course for high school credit may be eligible for credit recovery.

There will be no increase in the GPA of a student who achieves credit for a credit recovery course. Should a student wish to modify his/her GPA, he/she should repeat the full course for credit and not seek participation in the credit recovery program.

Student athletes and their parents/legal guardians should be aware that current National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) rules place strict limitations on credits earned through a credit recovery program. Participation in this program is likely to affect a student's eligibility for NCAA play (i.e., VirtualSC credit recovery courses are not approved by the NCAA). Consult the athletic department for more information.

SOUTH CAROLINA GRADUATION SEALS CRITERIA

Students enrolled in South Carolina high schools shall have the opportunity to earn graduation Seals of Distinction within each high school diploma pathway that identifies a particular area of focus, beginning with the freshman class of 2018-19. The earning of a graduation seal(s) shall be based upon the following criteria:

- A. Students shall meet all requirements set forth in State Board Policy R43-234: State Graduation Requirements related to earning a high school diploma.
- B. Students may earn one or more Seals of Distinction including an Honors Seal, College Seal, Career Seal, Specialization Seal (with focus areas in the following: STEM, World Language, Arts, and Military).
- C. English I, II, III, IV or their course equivalents (Customized English I, II, III, IV), or higher level substitutes (AP, IB, or Dual Credit) must be taken to earn all Seals of Distinction.
- D. Students are not required to earn a Seal of Distinction in order to receive a diploma.
- E. The implementation of this policy is required for all Local Education Agency high schools.

HONORS SEAL OF DISTINCTION

- A. English I–IV – At least two courses at the honors level or higher.
- B. Mathematics – Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II with at least two at the honors level or higher and a fourth honors or above mathematics course with either Algebra II as a prerequisite.
- C. Science – Three units of a lab science including at least one course in biology and one course in chemistry and a third science with biology and chemistry as a prerequisite. At least two of the science courses must be at the honors level or higher.
- D. Social Studies – Three units of social studies including U.S. History and Government/Economics and a third course of the student's choice with at least two at the honors level or higher.
- E. World Language –Students entering high school in 2018-2019and after will be required to earn credits in at least two world language courses in the same language other than English

- F. *Students entering high school in 2019-2020 and beyond will be required to earn credits in at least three world language courses in the same language other than English
- G. Advanced Coursework – At least four higher-level courses during junior and/or senior years which carry quality points at the honors, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or Dual Enrollment level (Note: Honors and dual credit CATE courses as well as Project Lead the Way courses are included).
- H. GPA – A GPA on the State Uniform Grading Scale of 3.5 or higher.

COLLEGE- READY SEAL

- A. English – English I-IV as required by Commission on Higher Education (CHE).
- B. Mathematics – Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II and a fourth mathematics course with either Algebra II or Integrated Mathematics III as a pre-requisite.
- C. Science – Three units of a lab science including at least one course in biology and one course in chemistry and a third lab science with biology or chemistry as a prerequisite. (Note: South Carolina's physical science course is not counted as a lab science by the Commission on Higher Education).
- D. Social Studies – Three units of social studies including U.S. History and Government/Economics and a third course of the student's choice.
- E. World Language – At least two world language courses other than English.
- F. Fine Arts – At least one fine arts course.
- G. GPA – GPA of 3.0 (or higher) OR an ACT composite score of 20 (or higher) OR an SAT combined Math + Evidenced-Based Reading/Writing score of 1020 (or higher).

CAREER SEAL OF DISTINCTION

- A. English – Four English courses aligned to postsecondary goals.
- B. Mathematics – Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II or customized math sequence and a fourth math course (including applied math courses) aligned to post-secondary career goals.
- C. Science – Three units of science with at least one course in biology and two courses (including applied science courses) tied to postsecondary career goals.
- D. Career and Technical Education – Completion of a major (four aligned courses within a career cluster designated by the district as a part of the EEDA) in one of the following national career clusters: – Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources – Architecture & Construction – Arts, A/V Technology & Communications – Business Management & Administration – Education & Training – Finance – Government & Public Administration – Health Science – Hospitality & Tourism – Human Services – Information Technology – Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security – Manufacturing – Marketing – Science, Technology, Engineering & Math – Transportation, Distribution & Logistics
- D. Earn at least one industry-recognized credential, a Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) at the Silver or higher on the state's career readiness assessment (WIN), or a semester-long WBL placement credit.
- E. GPA on the State Uniform Grading Scale of at least 2.5

SPECIALIZATION SEALS OF DISTINCTION

This seal supports the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by allowing students to concentrate in STEM, World Language, the Arts, and the Military. These requirements are in addition to the requirements of the standard diploma as set forth by State Board Policy.

- **STEM** – Four elective courses beyond the required courses in math, science, and technology with at least two courses at the honors level or higher. The four courses may be in one area of STEM or across the four areas of STEM.
- **Military** – Four courses in JROTC and a score of 31 or higher on the ASVAB assessment.
- **Arts** – Four elective courses in single or multiple areas of the Arts with two or more courses at the honors or AP/IB levels. Successful demonstration of mastery on an externally validated performance task (AP exam of 3 or IB exam of 4 may count if the courses are taken before the senior year). Specialization Seals of Distinction, continued
- **World Language** – Proficiency in a language other than English by completing a four course concentration in the same language and/or demonstrating proficiency with a score of “Intermediate Low” or higher on the American Council for Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL). AP exams of 3 or higher or IB exam of 4 or higher may demonstrate proficiency if courses are taken before the senior year. Limited English Proficiency students may complete the same criteria above but also demonstrate English proficiency with a Level 5 composite score or higher on the ACCESS language proficiency test.
- **GPA** – For all of the specialization seals, the student shall earn a GPA on the State Uniform Grading Scale of 3.0 or higher.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

Dual enrollment means that a student takes classes at Piedmont Technical College while attending high school, earning both high school and college credit for courses successfully completed. The purpose of these courses is to allow students the opportunity to earn college credit while still enrolled in high school. Students will receive one unit (AP level) per course for high school credit. Students will be required to purchase college texts. Students earning a C or better will receive 3 hours of college credit per course. Piedmont Technical College will provide a transcript to the high school upon completion of the semester as required by the SC Department of Education.

Students must complete the following admissions requirements:

- Piedmont Technical College Application for Admission
- Piedmont Technical College Dual Enrollment Registration Form signed by parent/guardian and guidance counselor/administrator
- Piedmont Technical College placement test scores (Accuplacer) or appropriate ACT or SAT scores
- Students must follow Piedmont Technical College's registration process
- Students must seek advisement from the guidance department. This is college level work, and students should have already demonstrated success with high school level work. Other considerations: student GPA, attendance, work ethic, and skills and characteristics described on the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate.

Transferability The S.C. Commission on Higher Education (CHE) publishes a list of courses that are transferable to all public institutions in South Carolina. This list can be found at <https://www.ptc.edu/academics/transfer-programs/courses-transfer>. Many private colleges also accept these courses for transfer credit. Career and technical courses not found on this list are transferable to all technical colleges and many public and private 4-year colleges, depending on the student's major.

Grades Students will still be eligible for the full 4 years of LIFE scholarship assistance after high school graduation, if they maintain the appropriate GPA. If students apply to another college or

university, the grades earned at Piedmont will be reviewed by the receiving institution, and these grades will affect the LIFE Scholarship.

GRADING SCALES

Grading scales may be weighted or unweighted. Weighted scales distinguish between course levels (i.e. College Prep courses do not carry as much weight as Honors courses, etc.). Two scales are included on transcripts. There is an unweighted 4.0 scale (College GPA – 4.0). There is also the S.C. Uniform Grading scale (Total GPA). It is weighted and its use is mandatory for schools in South Carolina. It is the scale used to determine class rank.

South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale				
Numerical Average	Letter Grade	College Prep Weighting	Honors Weighting	AP/IB/Dual Credit Weighting
100	A	5.000	5.500	6.000
99	A	4.900	5.400	5.900
98	A	4.800	5.300	5.800
97	A	4.700	5.200	5.700
96	A	4.600	5.100	5.600
95	A	4.500	5.000	5.500
94	A	4.400	4.900	5.400
93	A	4.300	4.800	5.300
92	A	4.200	4.700	5.200
91	A	4.100	4.600	5.100
90	A	4.000	4.500	5.000
89	B	3.900	4.400	4.900
88	B	3.800	4.300	4.800
87	B	3.700	4.200	4.700
86	B	3.600	4.100	4.600
85	B	3.500	4.000	4.500
84	B	3.400	3.900	4.400
83	B	3.300	3.800	4.300
82	B	3.200	3.700	4.200
81	B	3.100	3.600	4.100
80	B	3.000	3.500	4.000
79	C	2.900	3.400	3.900
78	C	2.800	3.300	3.800
77	C	2.700	3.200	3.700
76	C	2.600	3.100	3.600
75	C	2.500	3.000	3.500
74	C	2.400	2.900	3.400
73	C	2.300	2.800	3.300
72	C	2.200	2.700	3.200
71	C	2.100	2.600	3.100
70	C	2.000	2.500	3.000
69	D	1.900	2.400	2.900
68	D	1.800	2.300	2.800
67	D	1.700	2.200	2.700

66	D	1.600	2.100	2.600
65	D	1.500	2.000	2.500
64	D	1.400	1.900	2.400
63	D	1.300	1.800	2.300
62	D	1.200	1.700	2.200
61	D	1.100	1.600	2.100
60	D	1.000	1.500	2.000
59	F	0.900	1.400	1.900
58	F	0.800	1.300	1.800
57	F	0.700	1.200	1.700
56	F	0.600	1.100	1.600
55	F	0.500	1.000	1.500
54	F	0.400	0.900	1.400
53	F	0.300	0.800	1.300
52	F	0.200	0.700	1.200
51	F	0.100	0.600	1.100
0-50	F	0.000	0.000	0.000
50	WF	0.000	0.000	0.000
50	FA	0.000	0.000	0.000
-	WP	0.000	0.000	0.000
-	P	0.000	0.000	0.000
-	NP	0.000	0.000	0.000
-	AU	0.000	0.000	0.000

TESTING INFORMATION

Accuplacer The Accuplacer exam is a series of short placement tests covering the areas of English, reading, and mathematics developed by College Board. This test is used to determine if students qualify for placement in all dual enrollment courses. This test can also be taken by seniors who are planning to enter a 2-year college or technical college after graduation.

ACT The ACT is a college admission exam that measures academic achievement in four areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science. The English portion measures both usage/mechanical and rhetorical skills such as punctuation, grammar, structure, strategies, organization, and style. The mathematics portion tests problem-solving skills in pre-algebra, algebra, and geometry. The reading portion tests comprehension in the areas of literature, prose fiction, humanities, and social and natural sciences. The science reasoning test assesses interpretation, analysis, evaluation, reasoning, and problem-solving skills in the natural sciences. There is also an optional writing part. Note: The state of South Carolina requires all third year students take the ACT in April.

ASVAB The Department of Defense introduced the ASVAB (which stands for Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) in 1968. It was originally designed to predict future academic and occupational success in military occupations. However, extensive research indicates the ASVAB assesses academic ability and predicts success in a wide variety of occupations. The ASVAB CEP is used for career exploration and is given to high school and early post-secondary students.

End-of-Course Exam Program (EOCEP) End-of-course exams will be administered in gateway courses as designated by the SC State Department of Education. They are currently given to students enrolled in English 2, Algebra 1/Intermediate Algebra, Biology, and US History. These

exams are given at the end of each designated course and are weighted 20% of a student's final grade.

Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT 10) The PSAT is administered only once per year in October. If a student misses the PSAT, he/she will not have an opportunity to take the test until the following year. SHS administers the PSAT on the Wednesday testing date specified by College Board. In December/January, students receive test scores and interpretive materials. Students can also use their PSAT scores to predict their scores on the SAT. To convert PSAT scores to SAT equivalents, one must multiply the critical reading and math PSAT scores by ten. The PSAT has three purposes. It introduces students to the organization and question types found on the SAT, allows students to gain test-taking skills, and is used to identify students with the potential to be successful in AP courses.

Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test / National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) Any student considering or planning to attend a 4-year college should take the PSAT/NMSQT during his or her eleventh grade year. The PSAT/NMSQT scores for juniors are necessary to qualify for merit-based scholarships and junior scholar programs at many colleges and universities. The scores are also used in selecting semi-finalists for the National Merit Scholarship awards. Several colleges use the PSAT/NMSQT to identify candidates for early admissions.

SAT The SAT measures the critical thinking, mathematical reasoning, and writing skills that students need to do college-level work. The critical reading section will include both short and long reading passages. The math section includes Algebra II topics such as exponential growth, absolute value, and functional notation and places greater emphasis on other topics such as linear functions, manipulations with exponents, and properties of tangent lines. Students will be asked to write an essay that requires them to take an issue and use examples to support their position. Questions will be included to see how well students use standard written English.

WIN Preparing students who are Career Ready is an important responsibility of John de la Howe School for Agriculture and the State of South Carolina. All 11th grade high school students in South Carolina will take the WIN (Worldwide Interactive Network) Ready to Work (R2W) assessment. The SC Department of Education has defined 11th grade students as students in their third year in high school after initial enrollment in 9th grade.

The WIN Ready to Work test consists of four multiple choice timed tests – Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information, Locating Information, and Essential Soft Skills. The Ready to Work tests measure real world skills that employers believe are critical to job success. Students may earn WIN's career readiness credential and an Essential Soft Skills credential which is recognized by businesses and industries nationwide.

SOUTH CAROLINA DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS WORKSHEET

Subject Area	Units Required	Units Earned
English	4 Units	
Mathematics	4 Units	
Science* (Lab)	3 Units	
US History	1 Unit	
Economics	½ Unit	
Government	½ Unit	

Other Social Studies	1 Unit	
Physical Education or ROTC (including health)	1 Unit	
Computer Science	1 Unit	
Foreign Language** or CATE	1 Unit	
Electives	7 Units	
Total	24 Units	

State colleges and universities may require additional units. Units successfully completed at the home school are transferred to John de la Howe. It is highly recommended that incoming students have taken at least one computer science course, physical education, and health.

*Many institutions require Biology, Chemistry, and Physics.

** Many institutions require three years of the same foreign language. Many **state** institutions require a minimum of two years of the same language.

Students who complete South Carolina's graduation requirements while enrolled at John de la Howe School for Agriculture are awarded a state high school diploma. In addition, students at JDLH School for Agriculture who elect to take Dual Enrollment courses through our agreement with Piedmont Technical College may be able to earn an Associate's degree depending on the coursework chosen and successful completion of all state and college requirements.

In order to ensure that all JDLH School for Agriculture students successfully meet high school graduation requirements and Associate degree requirements (if that path is chosen), all students will have an annual Individual Graduation Plan (IGP) conference with the school counselor and at least one parent. The IGP conference will include attention to courses in progress, grades, academic goals/barriers, diploma requirements, post-secondary requirements academic and career assessments, and career cluster/major information.

All John de la Howe students must declare a major before the end of the second semester of the 10th grade year.

NCAA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) has policies regarding athletic eligibility for Division I and Division II schools. To be eligible for financial aid, practice, and competition during the freshman year of college, a student must meet certain requirements. Specific information regarding core courses, minimum test scores, and minimum GPAs is available in the school guidance office.

Students planning to participate in athletics at Division I or Division II colleges or universities must be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. Students should apply for certification during spring of their junior year or early in their senior year on this website: www.eligibilitycenter.org.

SCHOLARSHIPS

LIFE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM The Legislative Incentive for Future Excellence (LIFE) Scholarship is a merit-based scholarship program which was approved by the General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor in 1998. The purpose of the LIFE Scholarship program is to increase access to higher education, improve the employability of South Carolina's students, provide incentives for students to be better prepared for college, and encourage students to graduate from college on time.

General eligibility criteria for all scholarship and grant programs:

- Must be a South Carolina resident
- Must be a US citizen or legal permanent resident
- Must be enrolled as a degree-seeking student at eligible South Carolina public or independent institutions
- Must not owe a refund or repayment on a State Grant or Scholarship, Pell Grant, or a Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant and not be in default on a loan under the Federal Perkins Loan or Federal Stafford Loan Program
- Must have never been convicted of any felonies and have not been convicted of any second or subsequent alcohol/drug-related misdemeanor offenses within the past academic year (excluding Lottery Tuition Assistance)

2-YEAR LIFE SCHOLARSHIP *Criteria:* Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA on the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale upon high school graduation (no rounding and at least 2 decimal places)

Award: Up to cost of tuition (plus \$300 book allowance) per academic year at a 2-year public or technical institution in South Carolina. At the 2-year independent institution, students may receive up to the maximum average of the cost-of-tuition at the 2-year USC regional campuses. Limited to 2 terms for the first one-year program or 4 terms for the first associate's degree program or a two-year program that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor's degree.

Application: No application required. The participating institution will determine eligibility and will notify the student if eligible for the scholarship.

Other eligibility requirements:

- Be a SC resident at time of high school graduation and college enrollment
- Must not be a recipient of SC HOPE Scholarship, Palmetto Fellows Scholarship, or Lottery Tuition Assistance
- Must meet all general eligibility criteria

4-YEAR LIFE SCHOLARSHIP The student's LIFE scholarship "clock" does not start until a student has graduated from high school. In other words, the 4-Year LIFE Scholarship will not go into effect until students have graduated from high school.

Criteria (must meet 2 out of 3):

- Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA on SC Uniform Grading Scale upon high school graduation (no rounding)
- Be in top 30% of their graduating class consisting of high school diploma candidates only based on SC UGS (no rounding)
- Minimum of 1100 on the SAT or 24 on the ACT. It is permissible to select an SAT critical reading and math score from different test administrations. Students cannot use the writing subsection score to meet the criteria.

Award: 4-yr Public & Independent - Up to \$5,000 (including \$300 book allowance) per academic year towards cost-of-attendance. Limited to 10 terms for the first approved 5-year bachelor's degree program or 8 terms for the first bachelor's degree program.

Application: No application required. The eligible institution will determine eligibility and will notify the student if eligible for the scholarship.

Other eligibility requirements:

- Be a SC resident at time of high school graduation and college enrollment
- Cannot be a recipient of SC HOPE Scholarship, Palmetto Fellows Scholarship, or Lottery Tuition Assistance
- Must meet all general eligibility criteria

PALMETTO FELLOWS SCHOLARSHIP For early awards, students must submit applications to the Commission on Higher Education for the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship by the date established in December each academic year. High school seniors may apply if they qualify for one of the two following situations (students cannot use these criteria to meet the final award criteria):

Situation 1:

- Score at least 1200 on the SAT or 27 on the ACT by the November test administration. It is permissible to select an SAT critical reading and math score from different test administrations. Students cannot use the writing subsection score to meet the criteria. The ACT composite score must be at one test sitting.
- Earn a minimum 3.50 cumulative GPA on the SC Uniform Grading Scale at the end of the junior year. GPA must be reported to at least 2 decimal places and cannot be rounded.
- Rank in the top 6% of the class at the end of either the sophomore or junior year. Rank is calculated by multiplying the number in class by 6%. If the resulting percent is not a whole number, then it will be rounded up to the next whole number. For example, a class size of 185 students would include the top 12 students since 11.1 rounds up to 12. ($185 \times 6\% = 11.1$, rounded to the next whole number of 12)

Situation 2:

- Score at least 1400 on the SAT or 32 on the ACT by the November test administration. It is permissible to select an SAT critical reading and math score from different test administrations.
- Students cannot use the writing subsection score to meet the criteria. The ACT composite score must be at one test sitting.
- Earn a minimum 4.00 cumulative GPA on the SC Uniform Grading Scale at the end of the junior year. GPA must be reported to at least 2 decimal places and cannot be rounded.

For final awards, students must submit applications to the Commission on Higher Ed for the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship by the date established in June each academic year. High school seniors must qualify for one of the two following situations:

Situation 1:

- Score at least 1200 on the SAT or 27 on the ACT by the June national test administration of the senior year. It is permissible to select an SAT critical reading and math score from different test administrations. Writing subsection score cannot be used to meet the criteria. The ACT composite score must be at one test sitting.
- Earn a minimum 3.50 cumulative GPA on the SC Uniform Grading Scale at the end of the senior year. GPA must be reported to at least 2 decimal places and cannot be rounded.
- Rank in the top 6% of the class at the end of the sophomore, junior and/or senior year. Rank is calculated by multiplying the number in class by 6%. If the resulting percent is not a whole number, it will be rounded up to the next whole number. For example, a class size of 185 students would include the top 12 students since 11.1 rounds up to 12. ($185 \times 6\% = 11.1$, rounded to the next whole number of 12)

Situation 2:

- Score at least 1400 on the SAT or 32 on the ACT by the June national test administration. It is permissible to select an SAT critical reading and math score from different test administrations. Writing subsection score cannot be used to meet the criteria. The ACT composite score must be at one test sitting.
- Earn a minimum 4.00 cumulative GPA on the SC Uniform Grading Scale at the end of the senior year. GPA must be reported to at least 2 decimal places and cannot be rounded.

Award: Up to \$6,700 per academic year towards cost of attendance at an eligible senior institution in S.C. for a max of 8 terms.

Other general eligibility requirements:

- Number of credit hours earned each academic year affects regaining the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship
- Must not be a recipient of the LIFE Scholarship, SC HOPE Scholarship, or the Lottery Tuition Assistance

Subject to change. For further details, visit the S.C. Commission on Higher Education's website at www.che.sc.gov.

ENHANCEMENTS FOR LIFE AND PALMETTO FELLOWS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS IN MATH AND SCIENCE PROGRAMS

Students receiving the LIFE Scholarship or the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship may be eligible for more scholarship money. The purpose of the program is to increase the number of college graduates in math and science areas. Students in their sophomore year of college who meet the requirements for the LIFE or Palmetto Fellows scholarships and are pursuing program majors in specified areas such as science, mathematics, computer science, information technology, engineering, science education, math education, healthcare, and related disciplines are eligible. A list of acceptable program majors is on the S.C. Commission of Higher Education's website.

Students who want to qualify for the enhanced awards must also take a specified number of credit hours in math and science during their freshmen year. Eligible course areas are also listed on the Commission's website.

Students who satisfy the LIFE scholarship eligibility requirements are currently awarded up to \$5,000 per year. Students meeting the eligibility requirements for the new LIFE enhancement for majoring in the eligible math or science programs will receive up to \$7,500 per year beginning their sophomore year.

Students who satisfy the Palmetto Fellows scholarship eligibility requirements are awarded up to \$6,700 per year. All Palmetto Fellows recipients who are sophomores and above in college will receive up to \$7,500 per year. Those meeting the eligibility requirements for the enhanced Palmetto Fellows award for majoring in eligible math and science programs will receive up to \$10,000 per year.

As is the case with the LIFE and Palmetto Fellows scholarships, the awards with the enhancement cannot exceed a student's cost of attendance, students must be South Carolina residents for tuition and fee purposes, and students must be attending an eligible public or independent institution in South Carolina.

Students who believe they may be eligible or are interested in becoming eligible are encouraged to contact their college's financial aid office for additional details. For specific information on the

regulations and academic requirements for the LIFE and Palmetto Fellows Scholarship enhancements and other state scholarship programs, please visit the Commission's website at www.che.sc.gov or contact the Commission at (803) 737-2260.

THE JOHN DE LA HOWE SCHOOL FOR AGRICULTURE COURSES OF STUDY

The Curriculum Framework include Clusters of Study and Majors. A career cluster is a group of related majors that organize courses and student experiences around specific occupations. A cluster of study is a means of organizing instruction and student experiences around broad categories that encompass virtually all occupations from entry level through professional levels. Clusters of study provide a way to organize and tailor coursework and learning experiences around areas of interests. Clusters of study are designed to provide a seamless transition from high school to college and/or the workforce. There are 16 national clusters.

They are:

- Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Arts, A/V, and Communications
- Business, Management, and Administration
- Education and Training
- Finance
- Government and Public Administration
- Health Science
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security
- Manufacturing
- Marketing, Sales, and Service
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
- Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics

A cluster of study has several majors. A major consists of the completion of the required units of study in that area. By the end of the tenth grade, students are asked to select a major, focusing their academic and elective interest in a specific area. With careful planning, some students may complete more than one major. Students can change a major if their interests change. Students are never locked into a specific cluster or major. Although students need to declare a major by the end of the tenth grade, completion of a major is not a requirement for a South Carolina High School Diploma.

A student who successfully earns the required units in a major will be a Career and Technology Education (CATE) Completer. A CATE Completer will wear a cord during the graduation ceremony representing the major that he or she completed. Senior transcripts and Individual Plans will be reviewed to identify qualifying students.

All students enrolled at John de la Howe School for Agriculture have access to **3 majors** within the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Cluster. Students must complete 4 units within each major to be a completer in that major. Students may work on a 2nd major if time and space allows.

An Electronic Individual Graduation Plan (eIGP) is a document used to assist students and their parents in exploring educational and professional possibilities and in making appropriate secondary and postsecondary decisions. It can be modified over time as the student's interests and skills develop or change. The eIGP is based on the student's academic record, work and general life experiences, and the results of assessments, such as career inventories and achievement tests. On a yearly basis, the eIGP will be modified to include courses required for graduation, courses required for a specific major, electives chosen related to a specific major, and extended learning opportunities related to the major.

JDLH SCHOOL FOR AGRICULTURE COURSES OF STUDY

AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND NATURAL RESOURCES CLUSTER

Students must earn at least four units in a major to attain completion status.

Major	Major	Major
Environmental & Natural Resources Management Courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture Science and Technology (5624) • Agribusiness & Marketing (5600) • Equipment Operation & Maintenance (5621) • Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Internship, work-based credit (5690) • Forestry (5642) • Aquaculture (5663) • Environmental & Natural Resource Management (5626) • Outdoor Recreation (5602) • Wildlife Management (5674) 	Horticulture Courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture Science and Technology (5624) • Agribusiness & Marketing (5600) • Equipment Operation & Maintenance (5621) • Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Internship, work-based credit (5690) • Introduction to Horticulture (5650) • Nursery, Greenhouse, & Garden Center Technology (5672) • Turf and Lawn Management (5654) • Landscape Technology (5670) 	Plant and Animal Systems Courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture Science and Technology (5624) • Agribusiness & Marketing (5600) • Equipment Operation & Maintenance (5621) • Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Internship, work-based credit (5690) • Aquaculture (5663) • Animal Science (5603) • Cattle Production (5646) • Equine Science (5679) • Farm Animal Production (5647) • Agriculture Crop Production & Mgmt. (5614)